

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

19 JANUARY 2016

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES

APPLICATION TO LICENCE HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 To ask the sub-committee to consider the application to grant a licence for a hackney carriage vehicle under the Council's wheelchair accessible vehicle age policy.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

- 2.1 None

3. Background.

- 3.1 It is the duty of the Local Authority to determine applications made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and Town Police Clauses Act 1847. These applications are referred to Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1 Application is made by Peyton Travel Ltd to licence a Ford Transit vehicle registration number PN62 CNF as a hackney carriage wheelchair accessible vehicle to seat 8 persons.

- 4.2 The vehicle is pre-owned and was first registered at the DVLA on 19 October 2012. The applicant has provided service history showing vehicle was inspected on 21 October 2013 at 29665 miles, 17 August 2014 at 61397 miles, 24 February 2015 at 79335 miles and 27 September 2015 at 92110 miles. The applicant has provided a certificate of testing from Swansea Coachworks Ltd in respect of a floor system for passenger seats and wheelchair.

A certificate in relation to the tail lift has also been submitted with a next testing requirement of 22 June 2016.

- 4.3 The vehicle is submitted for consideration under the Council's Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy.

Policy Guidelines

The vehicle policy applicable to this application was approved by the Licensing Committee on 10 March 2008. The relevant extract from the policy is as follows:

“(Policy 2.1) Applications for the first licensing of a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle should be submitted to the Council within 14 days of the first registration of the vehicle at the DVLA. The mileage at the time of application should be no greater than 500 miles. The applicant may be the second or a subsequent registered keeper but the applicant must demonstrate that there is no more than 14 days between the first registration and transfer to the applicant’s name. Applications will normally be dealt with under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

(Policy 2.2) Applications for the first licensing of vehicles falling outside the above policy guidelines will normally be refused but a relaxation of the policy may be considered in exceptional circumstances. The general guidelines for relaxation of the policy are as follows but each case will be dealt with on its merits:

(Policy 2.2.3) In order to ensure that customers can hire taxis with the minimum delay and inconvenience, the policy may be relaxed to allow the licensing of wheelchair accessible hackney carriage or private hire vehicles up to three years old on application, provided that a full service history and safety certification, including a satisfactory conversion certification is provided with the application and the vehicle can satisfy the general licensing requirements. Applications of this type will normally be dealt with under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

(Policy 2.2.4) The licensee of any vehicle licensed under the Council’s special policy for wheelchair accessible vehicles must ensure that the vehicle is wheelchair accessible at all times and carry such ramps etc that are necessary. The maximum seating capacity of the vehicle will be specified in the licence and must include provision for at least one wheelchair.”

4.4.1 This case is referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee because the vehicle is over 3 years old.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 None

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

6.1 This vehicle is for wheelchair use. There are no other implications in relation to age; disability; gender and transgender; race; religion or belief and non-belief; sexual orientation.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 None for the Authority.

8. Recommendation.

8.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to determine the application having regard to the information contained within this report.

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Background documents

Hackney Carriage Vehicle Application Form
Hackney Carriage Policy Guidelines
Vehicle Service History
Certificates of Testing